

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



CONTINUING TO
CHANGE LIVES
IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD



Communities continue to strengthen and grow under the Bóthar programme. Bóthar specialises in the empowerment of poor rural communities in the developing world. Since its origins, Bóthar has focused on the provision of livestock (primarily in-calf dairy heifers and in-kid goats) and training to needy families in developing countries.



BUILDING COMMUNITIES



ACCESS TO EDUCATION



INCOME AND ASSETS



EMPOWERING WOMEN

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, HARRY LAWLOR

It is somewhat comforting to know that there are hundreds of families better off today because of the great work that was completed this year. This was solely thanks to the generosity of our partners, Irish aid, Heifer International, Msaada and the generous donations from you, Irish families, Irish people who care and who give.

Amongst our many other projects during the year, we are so proud that on October 10th 2016, on board our 'Flying Ark', you sent 5,300 animals from Shannon Airport to Kigali Airport in Rwanda.

In one single intervention we provided 797 families each with a sustainable farming micro enterprise that will safeguard their futures and that of their babies. The reception that greeted us on arrival from the Rwandan government and the locals was unforgettable. Women and children crying with happiness. It will never leave my mind. It was truly unforgettable.

This is what Bóthar is all about. Changing lives. Making a difference. All done by giving the gift of a life-saving animal.

In the communities we work, ending hunger and poverty is achievable. I have witnessed this myself on many occasions. It is possible and we want to make it probable, actual. The training, education and animals that we give our families is one of the best gifts that the developing world can give. It is, as we have

always repeated, ad infinitum, the gift that keeps on giving.

A long term solution. One that so many families voice, one so many families have been waiting for, one we can provide.

Every single aspect of Bóthar's programmes bring with them happiness, hope and security together with palpable dignity. What better gifts are there to give?

Thank you for coming on this journey with us. Every day that a family has been uplifted, please, please know that you have contributed to this in no small manner.

You are making that difference, all I can ask is that you continue to make this difference.

I look forward to next year, fulfilling the promise of changing lives to families who are in desperate need of our help. Who are waiting for our animals, waiting to feed and educate their little children, waiting for the things that we take as a right, that we have been gifted.

Thank you.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Harry Lawlor'.

Harry Lawlor,
Chairman of Bóthar



"In the field, Bóthar will continue the emphasis on 'adding value', achieved by developing co-operatives and community development groups in programme countries. In doing so, the aim is to ensure that livestock donation continues to be a stimulus for wider development in local communities."

- David Moloney, Bóthar CEO



MESSAGE FROM BÓTHAR CEO, DAVID MOLONEY

The 2016 Annual Report shows the huge programme of work we achieved this year. I was fortunate to spend some time in some of our project areas and am very pleased with the progress that is being made. I'm very happy to report growth in our income, which will directly benefit more families in the months to come.

Bóthar's 25th anniversary provided an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the past quarter century in the form of a Bóthar Flying Ark of Irish livestock flying from Shannon to Rwanda in September 2016. Led by Dublin Football Manager, Jim Gavin, the trip was a huge success and hundreds of families who had been waiting, finally received their animal.

The aim for 2016/2017 is to continue refocusing the organisation on the core activities of providing livestock, supporting needy families, delivering training and education, empowering individuals, families and communities in developing countries. This involves strengthening links and communication with donors, supporters and volunteers in Ireland and plans are in place to broaden the educational programme with schools, institutions and support groups.

In the field, Bóthar will continue the emphasis on 'adding value', achieved by developing co-operatives and

community development groups in programme countries. In doing so, the aim is to ensure that livestock donation continues to be a stimulus for wider development in local communities. Women will continue to be empowered, supported and encouraged in developing countries. The provision of ongoing training will equip families for managing their animal but also for wider development issues.

The sustainable nature of the Bóthar approach is best highlighted by the fact that families who receive an animal must donate the first female off-spring or the equivalent value of what they received to another needy family. The beneficiary becomes a donor and the benefit multiplies within the community. Bóthar places significant emphasis on 'Adding Value'. Therefore, even in the absence of new livestock from Ireland, new families continue to receive livestock. To further enhance financial sustainability, Bóthar has established revolving funds and micro-credit loans in many projects, which provide local people with the money

to purchase animals, goods or other necessities. The repayment of the loan, reimburses the fund and provides credit opportunities for other families. Bóthar is continuing to support and also plan to develop more co-operatives and establish further groups (women's groups, community groups) in programme countries. Bóthar continues to promote and foster gender empowerment, which is key to success within the programme countries.

Looking back on 2016, I know that we provided help where it was needed most.

We made a difference and that is thanks to our donors, to our partners and to Irish Aid.

Looking forward to continuing to make a difference in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



David Moloney, CEO

OUR MISSION



WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Bóthar is proud to be the Irish charity that specializes in livestock in development aid. Bóthar works with families and communities worldwide to overcome hunger and poverty. Bóthar specialises in improved livestock production and support-related training and community development.

By sending Irish dairy cows, Irish dairy goats, Irish chickens, Irish pigs, Irish AI straws, we know that we are working with a quality animal that will yield more than any local animal. Greater yields and a superior output (milk, eggs) results in larger incomes in a quicker period of time. This means that families can turn their lives around much quicker than if they were to rely on local breeds.

An Irish Dairy Cow can produce an average of 20 litres of nutritious milk per day in

our project countries. A local African cow produces just 1-4 litres of milk a day.

Each family trains extensively prior to receiving their animal. They have the expert knowledge and they use it. For up to three years after they receive their animal, they will have access to veterinary services so that their animal receives the very best care. Our animals usually live far longer in our programmes overseas than they do here in Ireland because of the individual attention they receive.

It's a simple idea and it works. And we are going to keep it simple.

Short-term solutions do not build communities. It's long term. It's sustainable. And it's working because of support from the Irish public and the Irish government.

OUR APPROACH

Bóthar uses cornerstones to evaluate the impact of the work being done in the field. Bóthar's approach is different to other NGO's operating in the field. The beauty of Bóthar is that it provides very practical assistance to destitute families. Through a gift of a food-and-income producing animal we are equipping them with the tools to change their circumstances themselves. After a family receives the gift of livestock, enormous changes in health and nutrition are evident straight away. But the most dramatic improvement is in the recipients sense of self-worth. Each participant gains knowledge and understanding that they carry with them for the rest of their lives and impart to others in their network. It is the gift that keeps on giving.



PASSING ON THE GIFT

Beneficiaries become Donors as each family that takes part in Bóthar projects must formally agree to pass-on to another selected family the first female offspring born to their animal. (In the case of the bee, rabbit and chicken projects the recipient family must save money earned from the sale of produce and offspring and with this must purchase breeding rabbits, flocks of chicks or hives to pass on to other families that have been trained to receive them). In this way the gift is multiplied and over time many families and even whole communities benefit.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Before a farmer ever receives an animal, they must train and prepare to receive their animal, so that they can maximise the gifts their animal can give. Each farming family will report to the Bóthar team at regular intervals throughout the year. If an animal is not yielding as it should, steps can be taken to ensure that productivity increases. Bóthar is now supplying all donor farmers with Heifer Progress Reports which highlight how their gift has impacted on the recipient family.



SUSTAINABILITY

Bóthar encourages and facilitates sustainable development in all the projects we support in a number of ways. The codependent ecology of plants and animals is evident in all of our projects, where plants and tree plots are established alongside our livestock, thus maximizing the gains of both. In the case of our heifer projects, manure is used as a natural fertilizer while animal urine is used as an insecticide which in turn leads to the improved production of the plants and fodder which returns again to the cycle to feed the animals. In this way both the stock of the beneficiary and the surrounding plant life mutually prosper.



IMPROVED ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

As Bóthar project recipients know, it is in the farmer's best interest to provide the best possible care for his or her livestock. The knowledge that improved care leads to improved productivity compels the beneficiaries to take great care of their animals for the simple reason that the health and well-being of the animal is directly linked to the owner's own prosperity. Seeing as the animals are the primary source of income for project families and the fact that the farming is done on an easily manageable scale means that in many cases the animal lives for several years longer than they would in large scale farming enterprises. To many families, the animal's importance is such that it is treated very much so as part of the family.

NUTRITION & INCOME

Receiving the gift of an Irish dairy cow or goat will be the first time that many of the families Bóthar works with will earn an income and this gift of a food-and-income-producing animal is like winning the lotto. Once family takes what they need for themselves, they sell the surplus. This extra income allows them to buy other foods that are rich in nutrition and improves their overall diet and health. Additional income is also used to send their children to school.

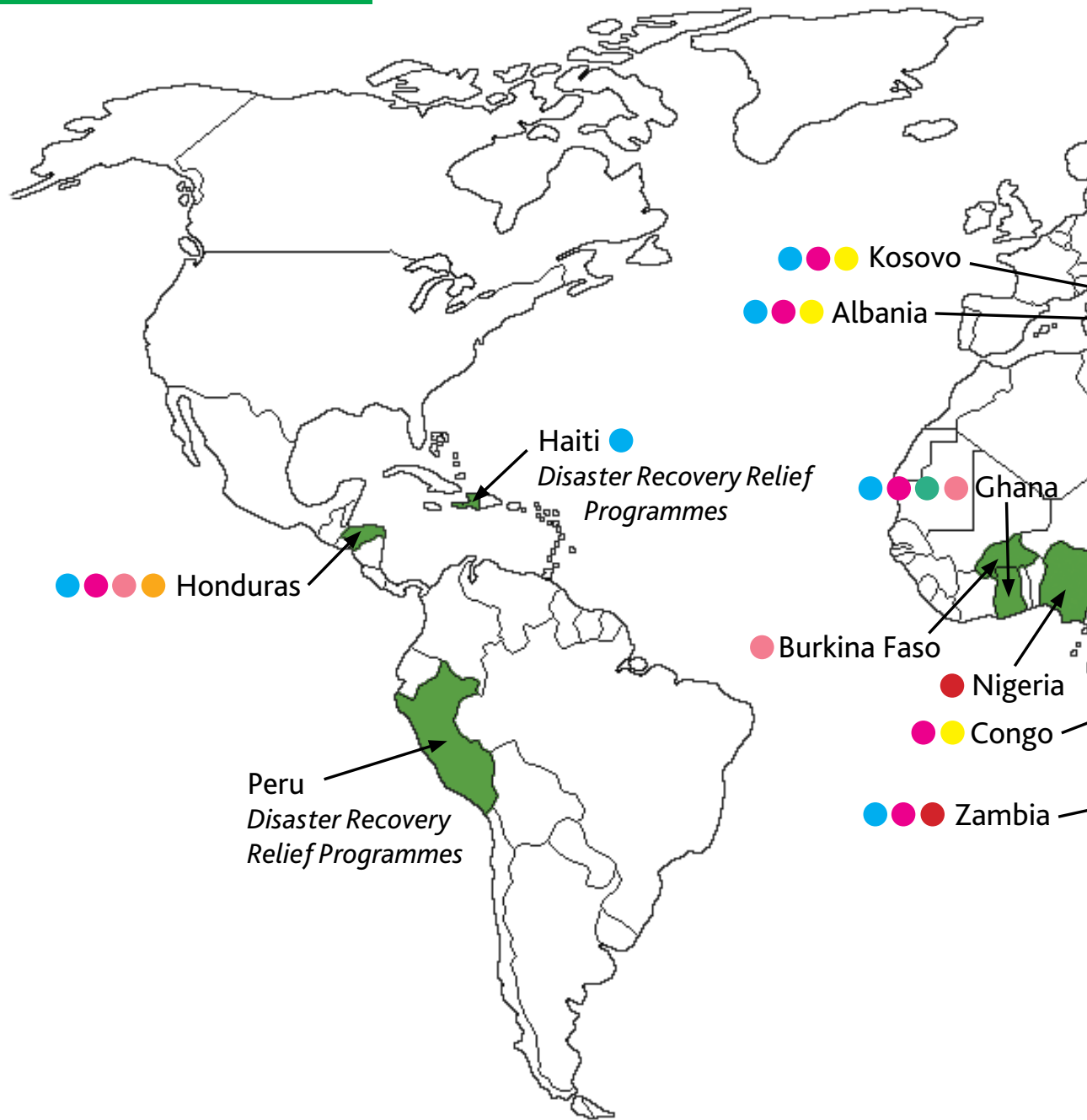
BUILDING COMMUNITIES

When there are many farmers in one local area and milk yields are high, the greater community benefits through the establishment of creameries. By supplying to the creamery, who in turn can sell the milk in bulk, higher prices can be commanded. This has a knock-on effect in the local community as people have a little extra money and can buy additional items at market and avail of more services. It's a win-win for everyone in the village.

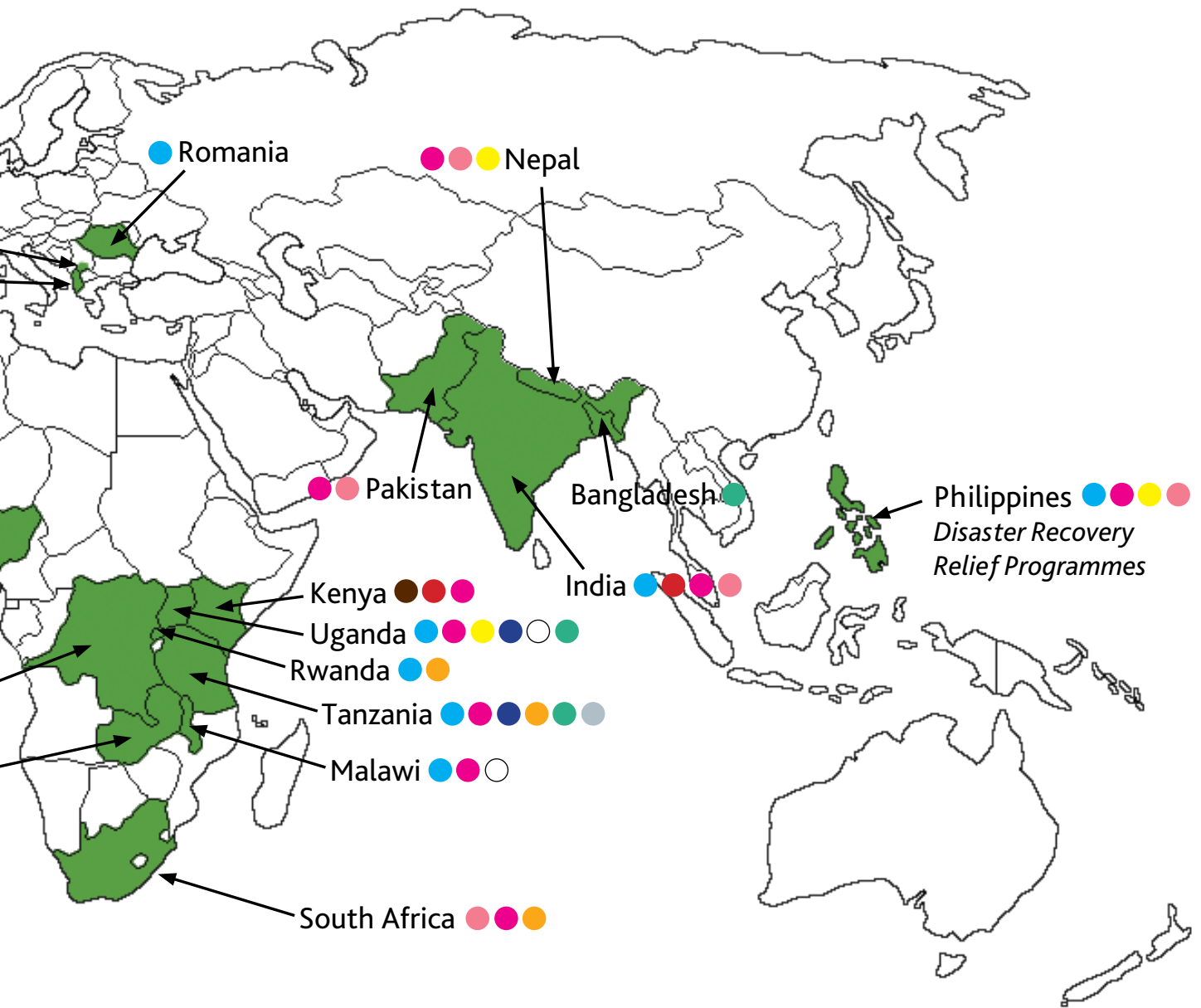




OUR WORK



During 2015/16 Bóthar supported 26 projects in 12 countries in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. By way of example some typical projects are briefly described in the following pages for Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe.



- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| ● Cows | ● Trees | ● Sheep | ● Ducks |
| ● Goats | ● Rabbits | ● Poultry | Dairy Processing |
| ● Pigs | ● Bees | ● Camels | |

BÓTHAR WORKING IN AFRICA

Improving poor farmers' livelihoods and enhancing capacities through Dairy Projects in Rwanda and Zambia.

RWANDA

A major focus of the activities for 2015/2016 was the preparation for the Bóthar Flying Ark which subsequently took place in October 2016. The plan was for a major livestock airlift to Rwanda including: 37 in-calf heifers; 3 bulls; 5000 doses of bovine semen; 260 pigs; 100 goats; and 5000 chickens.

The people who received the cows were mainly widows living in extreme poverty. The dairy cows enabled beneficiaries to earn their own living through the sale of surplus milk and extra crops grown as a result of using the cow's manure as a fertilizer. Irish dairy cows produce about 20 litres of milk per day, compared to 1 or 2 litres from a local cow or 6 to 8 litres for a cross-breed.

Irish cows thrive in Rwanda's climate. The family can sell the surplus milk for up to €3.80 per day and the increased crops from the manure can add an additional €1.20 to their income. This lifts the families well above the U.N. poverty line of about €1.10 (\$1.25) per day and enables them to cater for all of their



family's basic needs, including school fees for their children.

The women are given a cow only after receiving extensive training in its care, including learning how to grow and harvest the crops needed for feed. They also have to build a zero-graze unit for the cow using locally sourced materials with the help of other community members. The cows are presented on condition that the owners will donate the first female calf to the next family in the scheme. This pass-on process is continued repeatedly. In this way the initial investment in a single heifer can go on to aid many families.

A bull calf can be sold for about €100 locally – a significant boost to the family's income and well-being. In many cases, the money from milk, crops and bull calves is the first time the family has ever had access to cash. Up to this, the families lived on what they could dig from their small plots of land.



Dublin football manager Jim Gavin on his recent trip to Rwanda.



ZAMBIA

Bóthar and Irish Aid supported the delivery of the Integrated Livelihoods Agribusiness Support Project (ILASP) by Heifer International Zambia in Kabwe, Zambia over a three year period. Poverty in Zambia still remains predominantly a rural phenomenon with poverty levels at 77% compared to 23% in urban areas. Some 800 vulnerable households, mostly women participated in the project.

The project succeeded in boosting food security and increasing income among participants mainly as a result of expanding the area of productive land cultivated and

increasing milk production. The participation of women in economic activity and control over productive assets has also improved. Farmer groups have also become stronger and have built links with other businesses to their mutual benefit.



The Irish Ambassador to Zambia, His Excellency Finbar O'Brien, recently visited Bóthar's project in Kabwe that is being supported by Irish Aid.



SOUTH AFRICA

Bóthar is currently engaged in a three year project in Blouberg, South Africa which is working with 2,100 vulnerable and marginalised women, men and their families to improve their food and income security. Some 70% of those who live in rural areas in South Africa such as in the Blouberg area are food insecure. This project focuses on developing the capacity of farmers by way of: training and developing household vegetable gardens; and small livestock enterprises (chickens, goats and bees). Livestock, bees, seedlings and saplings are provided as part of the project. Families receive training on nutrition and food utilisation. A focus is also placed on enhancing the local markets and connecting farmers into the market network and providing them with market and price information.

BURKINA FASO

Some 69% of the population of Burkina Faso are illiterate which limits the potential of overcoming poverty and food insecurity. Over the past ten years, Bóthar has supported a participatory Micro-Finance project to promote chicken-egg micro enterprises in South-West

Burkina Faso. The project benefited 16 families by providing credit to young women and men to establish egg micro enterprises. Participants received business training to assist them with their enterprise and also received agricultural equipment and supplies as well as construction materials, laying hens, feed, veterinary products and services. The supports allowed participants to establish their egg enterprises which boosted their income.

MALAWI

Bóthar works closely with the Small Scale Livestock and Livelihoods Programme (SLLP) on the implementation of livestock resilience projects in two areas of Malawi which have suffered as a result of recent flooding. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in Africa and is suffering from the consequences of climate change. The project supported 2,000 of the poorest families by way of training which equipped them to implement more resilient livestock farming systems and ultimately reducing their vulnerability. Training was focused on animal management skills, climate change and risk management. As a result, families were better able to respond to different climate pressures such as flooding and droughts.



BÓTHAR WORKING IN ASIA

Supporting sustainable livelihoods of women in Nepal.



Nepal is one of the poorest countries in Southeast Asia. In 2015, two severe earthquakes hit the northwest of the capital of Kathmandu within 17 days. The damage done by the quake will last for many years affecting especially thousands of vulnerable and poor people. Bóthar supported the work of longstanding partner Animal Health

Training and Consultancy Service (AHTCS) to implement a livelihoods improvement project to 32 households which were badly affected by the earthquake in Nepal. The project provided breeding goats and pigs to these families. In addition agricultural equipment, construction materials and training of livestock management were provided.





BÓTHAR WORKING IN EASTERN EUROPE

Heifers and Goats for poor families and Roma Women in Kosovo and Romania.



KOSOVO

Bóthar continues to work with its long standing partner Mesqerra in the implementation of livestock projects in two regions in Kosovo, the poorest country in Europe which has suffered following the war in 1999. Over 60% of the unemployed in the country live in rural areas and a large proportion of the rural population live below subsistence level. As part of a two year project, 45 in-calf heifers and 33 pass on calves have benefited 78 families and 468 people. Families also received farm management training which has resulted in increased production.

Families now have the potential to sell surplus milk and increase their family income. The project has developed the communities self reliance and sustainability and also made farmers more aware of the opportunities within the local marketplace.

ROMANIA

Romania has the highest poverty rate in the EU with a significant gap between rural and urban areas. Bóthar supports the work of a local partner Open Fields Foundation in implementing programmes to address hunger and rural poverty in the poorest areas of Romania, many of the families being from the Roma minority. In the current year, 123 heifers were distributed to 183 families. Local communities have been empowered to work together, learn how to look after their animals and make changes in their lives, to create a better world for themselves.





BÓTHAR WORKING IN IRELAND

Bóthar educates young people in schools on our work in developing countries. The Bóthar na nGabhar (Republic of Ireland) and Kids for Kids (Northern Ireland) programmes in primary schools aim to: educate children in Ireland about the lives that children in the developing world lead; and to raise funds to send Irish dairy goats to individual families in the developing world.

The Bóthar na mBó (Republic of Ireland) and Cash for Cows (Northern Ireland) programmes in secondary schools aim to: educate students in Ireland about life in the developing world; and to raise funds to send Irish dairy cows to individual families in the developing world.



There was a special heifer that the pupils from Kilcommon National School, Tipperary were interested in at the heifer collection for the Flying Ark! All the children fundraised for a heifer calf, which was reared on the farm of Edward Carr, whose daughter attends the local school. Thanks to all the star pupils for turning up on the day and adding lots of smiles to the event!





Pictured is Bóthar CEO, Dave Moloney collecting a cheque from Ballinahinch N. S., Ballinahinch, Co. Tipperary, who donated €400 towards our Dairy Goat projects. It's their 17th year making such a donation! No kidding! Well done guys.



Huge thanks to the Holy Communion classes from Scoil an Duinnínigh, Kinsealy, Co. Dublin who raised an unbelievable €1,261 for Bóthar recently. Go raibh míle math agaibh go léir. Tá sibh go hiontach! The classes are pictured here presenting the cheque to Kate Finucane, Bóthar. Keep up the good work!

OUR TEAM

David Moloney - **CEO**

Niamh Mulqueen - **Corporate Relations Manager**

Maureen Purcell - **Donor Care Manager**

Maria McCormack - **Livestock Procurement & Airlifts Manager**

Elaine Moynihan - **Financial Accounts Manager**

Pat Mullins - **Livestock Procurement & Airlifts Officer**

Aisling Matthews - **Tax Efficiency Officer**

Kate Finucane - **Marketing Manager**

Olivia Cumiskey - **Committed Giving Officer**

Aideen O'Leary - **Resource Development Manager**

Patty Abozaglo - **Programme Manager
International Development &
Organisational Strengthening**



BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman: Mr. Harry Lawlor - Foods Exporter, Cork

Vice Chair: Ms. Sinead Baggott - Solicitor, Limerick

Treasurer: Mr. Patrick Lavin - Chartered Accountant, Limerick

Mr John Finucane - Farmer, Limerick

Archbishop Dermot Clifford - Clergy, Tipperary

Canon Tom Sherlock - Clergy, Kilkenny

Ms. Mary Culhane - Farmer, Limerick

Ms. Helga Morrow - Office Manager, Dublin

Mr. Thomas Blackburn - Farmer, Effin, Co. Limerick

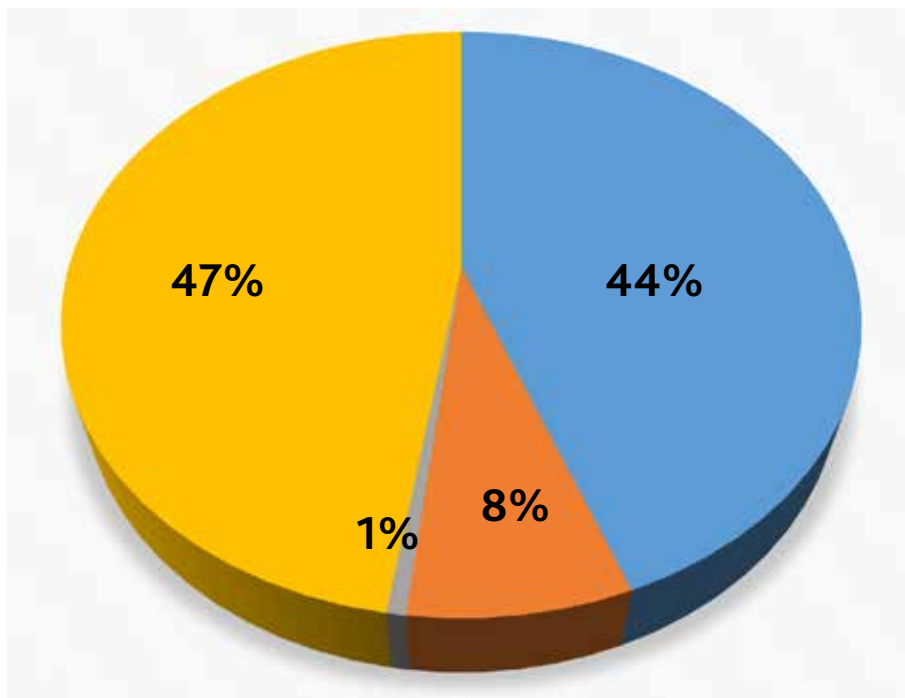


FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	2016	2015
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	759947	787810
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	2476	107362
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>1357153</u>	<u>593338</u>
	1359629	700700
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	(582596)	(307208)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>777033</u>	<u>393492</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	1536980	1181302
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(467544)	(564912)
Provision for Liabilities	(23188)	(22173)
NET ASSETS	<u>1046248</u>	<u>594217</u>
CHARITABLE FUND		
Unrestricted Funds	<u>1046248</u>	<u>594217</u>
Total Funds	<u>1046248</u>	<u>594217</u>
 STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Income	6150846	5324011
Irish Aid Grant	<u>200000</u>	<u>200000</u>
Total Income	6350846	5524011
Livestock Provision and Support	(5198238)	(4857366)
Cost of Raising Funds	(704893)	(374754)
OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	447715	291891
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	<u>4316</u>	-
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS	452031	291891
Surplus brought forward	594217	<u>302326</u>
Surplus carried forward	<u>1046248</u>	<u>594217</u>

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Distribution of funds per region %





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